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Golborne
Urban District Council

Annual Report
of the
Public Health Department
For the Year 1953.

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Public Health Department
For the Year 1953.

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GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

LIST OF MEMBERS AND OFFICERS, 1953

Chairman of Council	Councillor T. Bullough, J.P.
Vice Chairman	Councillor J. Armstrong
Chairman of Health Committee	Councillor E. Richards, J.P.

Members		Ward
Leonard Ball, J.P., C.C.	...	Heath
Ernest Merion Jones	...	Heath
William Naylor, J.P.	...	Heath
John Armstrong	...	Park
Ernest Richards, J.P.	...	Park
James Joseph Richards	...	Park
John Barwell	...	St. Thomas's
George Henry Dearden, C.C.	...	St. Thomas's
Richard Wilde	...	St. Thomas's
Joseph Allen	...	Culcheth
John George Wedel	...	Culcheth
Charles Henry Whittaker (To October, 1953)	...	Culcheth
Gavin Alexander Cook (From December, 1953)	...	Culcheth
William Clayton...	...	Kenyon
John Kenny (To May, 1953)	...	Kenyon
Meredith Millington (From May, 1953)	...	Kenyon
Thomas William Jackson, J.P.	...	Kenyon
Thomas Bullough...	...	Lowton
Peter Harold Johnson	...	Lowton
Reginald Thwaite	...	Lowton

OFFICERS

Clerk: Mr. F. Martland

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. A.C. Crawford

Surveyor: Mr. J.B. Hoyle

Treasurer: Mr. T.J. Robson

Senior Sanitary Inspector: Mr. J. Blakeley

Rating Officer: Mr. P. Barnes

GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

A.C. CRAWFORD, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

*J. BLAKELEY, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

*H. LONGWORTH, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerks:

Miss B.M. Parr
(To April, 1953)Miss M.R. Sumner
(From August, 1953)

*Qualified Meat and Other Foods Inspectors

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR 1953

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
LOWTON.

To the Chairman and
Members of the Golborne Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration and approval my Annual Report for the year 1953, concerning the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District and the health of its residents, as reflected in its "vital statistics" and other relevant records. As in other years since 1948, this Report includes a section devoted to the functions of the "Local Health Authority" (the County Council), under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Children Act, 1948 and other statutes and instruments, which functions, although dealing principally with the personal welfare of individuals, must of necessity have a profound bearing on the overall health and well-being of the community as a whole.

The mid-year population of the District, as estimated by the Registrar General, was 17,160, as compared with 17,640 at mid-1952 - a decrease which may well be accounted for by the movement of Service personnel (and civilian employees of the Services) from camps which have been vacated during the year. Despite this fall in estimated population, however, there was a "natural increase" (excess of live births over deaths) during the year of 120.

The number of live births belonging to the District was 280 (of which all but 8 were legitimate), giving a "crude" live birth rate of 16.3 per 1000, as compared with 13.8 per 1000 last year, and an "adjusted" rate of 15.2 per 1000, against 12.8 per 1000 in 1952. The adjusted rate is therefore almost identical with that for England and Wales (15.5 per 1000) with which it is strictly comparable. The number of still births, however, was unusually high at 11, giving a still birth rate of 38 per 1000 total (live and still) births, as compared with 8 per 1000 in 1952.

Assessed as a rate per 1000 of the "home population" the current year's rate becomes 0.64, a considerable excess over the 0.35 rate for England and Wales, and 0.35 for the smaller towns. When dealing with such small numbers it is of course inevitable that there will be a very wide variation in the annual rates derived thereof; but nevertheless both actual number and rate are the highest since 1948, when the figures for both were identical with the present year's figure. The causes of still births are, of course, many and varied, but all in some way reflect on the mother's health during pregnancy, and thus a high still birth rate must call for careful consideration of ante-natal care and supervision facilities, and an analysis of each case individually.

Infant deaths - under 1 year old - were 8 in number, equally divided as to sex, and correspond to an infant mortality rate of 29 per 1000 live births; a satisfactory figure on the whole, comparing very favourably with the overall 26.5 per 1000 for England and Wales, last year's rate of 33, and a mean quinquennial rate of 37 for the five preceding years. But here again great caution is necessary in interpretation because of the small actual numbers involved. Of these 8 deaths, 5 occurred in the first 4 weeks of life, giving a neo-natal death rate of 18 per 1000 live births, as against corresponding figures of 21 and 20 for the year 1952 and for the quinquennial mean respectively. Of these neo-natal deaths, three were associated with Prematurity, one with Congenital Heart Disease and one from Atelectasis (failure of the lungs to expand at birth); whilst there were two deaths among the older babies which might possibly have been prevented - one due to accidental suffocation in a pillow, and one to Pneumonia following Measles.

The grand total of deaths was 160 - giving a "crude" death rate of 9.3 per 1000 and an "adjusted" rate of 11.0. These figures are somewhat lower than a year ago, and in fact, for some years, the "quinquennial mean" being 11.1 per 1000; and again compare favourably with the rates for England and Wales (11.4 per 1000), for smaller towns (11.3) and for London (12.5).

Analysis of the general causes of death shows, as is frequently the case, that diseases of the heart and circulation, particularly degenerative diseases of the heart, are most frequently cited as the cause of death, no fewer than 61 deaths having been certified as within this group, of which 15 were due to disease of the coronary arteries and/or angina pectoris. Next in order of frequency comes the cancer group, with a total death roll of 29, of which 18 were male and 11 female; then in third place the heterogeneous "ill defined" groups

of diseases, with 16, followed by the "strokes" - the cerebro-vascular lesions - with 13, again with males in the majority by 8 to 5. The order then becomes:- Bronchitis and Pneumonia - 12; Violent or accidental deaths - 8 (of which 7 were due to accidents, only 1 of which concerned a motor vehicle), and Respiratory Tuberculosis, with 4 deaths. None of these figures present any very striking or unusual features, but attention may perhaps be directed to the number of accidental deaths, and particularly to the low proportion which road traffic deaths bear to the total. Very properly, today, with the toll of road casualties so high, there is constant propaganda which aims at the reduction of these risks; but it should not be forgotten that home accidents, for instance - particularly burns and scalds - contribute very substantially to injury and death, amongst children and aged persons especially.

Once again one is happy to record that no women died as the result of pregnancy or childbirth; there were no "maternal deaths".

The Cancer mortality incidence in the District has shown no appreciable change from last year's figures, but is slightly lower, being 1.69 per 1000 population as against 1.92 per 1000; nor is there any significant difference in the proportion of these deaths to the total death rate, the current figure being approximately 18%, as compared with 17% in 1952. It is therefore true, in general terms, that one person in every seven in the area dies as the result of this morbid process, the precise nature of which is still undetermined.

The "notifiable diseases" total of 403 was more than two and a half times as great as last year (151), an increase almost wholly attributable to an epidemic of Measles (294 cases) which affected principally Golborne township, but also the Lowton district to some extent. This is the largest number of cases recorded since 1950, when the figure was 241; it is of course a well-recognised epidemiological feature of this disease that epidemics tend to recur in a particular district in two to three-yearly cycles. Whooping Cough notifications were somewhat higher being 79 as compared with 61 in 1952, but were only one half of the total (150) in 1950, when this disease was concurrently prevalent with Measles. Scarlet Fever showed a lessened incidence, there being only 12 cases, as against 32 last year, and a mean figure of 38 for the previous quinquennium, the number of Pneumonia cases were also low (4), as was that of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (7), in contrast to 17 in 1952, and a mean quinquennial figure of 11. Coming to the more unusual diseases, there were 2 cases of

Poliomyelitis, one in a child, and one in a young adult man, 1 of Paratyphoid Fever, in a young girl, and 1 of Meningococcal Meningitis in a baby. None of these, fortunately, proved fatal, and all were nursed in hospital. No notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia, nor of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, were received during the year.

Progress has continued during the year in the conversion of privy-middens and pail closets to water closets, but the rate of conversion could well be augmented; also the conversion of the old trough type closets in all schools is very desirable, together with the provision of adequate ablution facilities. The overall housing position has improved materially, both as the result of new building by the Authority and by private firms; but there yet remains a good deal of lee-way to make up, both in new construction and in repairs and renovations. Water supplies are still inadequate in parts of the district, and the Ince supply has continued to be a source of anxiety by reason of its hardness and high chalk content, largely in suspension. The condition of Millingford Brook, especially during part of its course through Golborne township, at Golborne Dale Bridge and The Hollows (where its course is obstructed by silt, decaying vegetation, dead trees, and debris of all kinds), continues to give rise to concern especially as this water course is known to be infected with micro-organisms capable of causing disease in man. It is most sincerely to be hoped that measures may be agreed between the three Authorities concerned, and the Mersey Rivers Board, to remedy this sorry state of affairs.

In conclusion of these prefatory comments I should like to express to you, Mr. Chairman, to all members of the Health Committee and of the Council my genuine gratitude for the confidence reposed in me and the cordiality of our relationship. My thanks must also be extended to the Clerk, Mr. Martland, and to the Chief Officers and staffs of all other departments of the Council for their ready help and co-operation in dealing with problems of mutual interest and concern; whilst to Mr. Blakeley, the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the staff of the Health Department itself I pay tribute and give thanks for the support which they have afforded me through the competence and efficiency of their work, their willingness, loyalty and enthusiasm.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A.C. CRAWFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

General Statistics

Area of district in acres	...	...	...	7,548
Population. Census 1931	...	...	...	13,748
Population. Census 1951	...	...	...	16,876
Population. Registrar General's estimate, mid. 1952	...	...	...	17,640
Population. Registrar General's estimate, mid. 1953	...	...	...	17,160
Number of inhabited Houses-				
Census 1931	...	...	...	3,140
End of 1953 according to rate books				5,188
Rateable Value, End of 1952	...	...	...	£80,264
Rateable Value, End of 1953	...	...	...	£81,805
Sum represented by a penny rate at end of 1952	...	...	...	£325
Sum represented by a penny rate at end of 1953	...	...	...	£335

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The Golborne Urban District extends from Ashton-in-Makerfield, Haydock and Newton-le-Willows on to the west to Irlam Urban District and Rixton-with-Glazebrook in the Warrington Rural Area on the east, a distance of about 7 miles. The southern boundaries are Newton Urban District, and Croft, in the Warrington Rural District, whilst the area is bounded on the North by Abram Urban District and Leigh Borough.

The geological features of the Urban District vary very greatly. Starting from the western end and proceeding eastward, we first find coal fields and red sandstone, with a covering-

of clay surfaced by a good depth of loamy soil. In the more central parts of the area there is a sandstone base with a decreasing amount of clay and in the eastern portions the sub-soil becomes more sandy and the surface soil much more open, eventually becoming largely moss land.

The surface waters from Lowton and Golborne Wards mainly gravitate to Millingford Brook, which passes through Newton lake before entering Sankey Brook, whose ultimate outlet is into the River Mersey at Sankey Bridges.

Lowton St. Mary's, Kenyon and Culcheth are principally drained by streams flowing eastward into the River Glaze, which falls to the Manchester Ship Canal. The height above Ordnance datum varies from 100 to 150 feet.

For the purposes of Local Government, the district is divided into six wards, comprising St. Thomas's, Heath and Park wards in Golborne, and Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth Wards, each with three representatives, making a total of eighteen Councillors.

The principal industries in the district are Artificial Silk Manufacture, Coal Mining, Engineering, Jam and Sugar Confectionery and Agriculture. Employment has been reasonably good in these industries throughout the year.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	136	136	272
Illegitimate	4	4	8
Total	140	140	280

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population

Crude	...	...	...	...	...	16.3
Adjusted	...	...	...	...	...	15.2

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	7	4	11

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) births - 38

DEATHS

85 Males	75 Females	Total 160
----------	------------	-----------

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population-

Crude	...	...	...	...	...	9.3
Adjusted	...	...	...	...	...	11.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - Nil.

Death rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) births - Nil.

INFANT MORTALITY

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	4	4	8

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	29
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	30
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	Nil.

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	...	...	...	...	5
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	18

Of the 8 babies who died before attaining the age of 1 year, 5 were under 28 days old; of these - the neo-natal deaths - three were due to Prematurity, one to Congenital Heart Disease and one to Pulmonary Atelectasis. Of the 3 children who died between the ages of 1 and 12 months, one died as the result of Pneumonia and Measles, one to Asphyxia due to smothering caused by the child burying her face in the pillow of a perambulator, whilst the remaining death was due to Marasmus.

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1953				
ANALYSIS OF INFANTILE MORTALITY				
Cause of Death	No. of Deaths		Age at Death	
	M	F		
Asphyxia	-	1	5 Months	
Marasmus	-	1	2 Months	
Pneumonia and Measles	-	1	3 Months	
Congenital Heart Disease	-	1	1 Day	
Premature Birth and Debility	1	-	3 Hours	
Prematurity... ...	2	-	7 Hours, 1 Week.	
Pulmonary Atelectasis	1	-	3 Days	

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1953

Statistics for 1953 and the Period, 1948-1952

	Live Births			Deaths (all causes)			Still Births			Maternal Mortality			Infant Mortality		
	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Regis- tered Pop'n.	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n.	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Regis- tered Pop'n.	Total Births	No. Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
Year 1953	280	+16.3	160	*9.3	11	38	Nil	Nil	8	29	5	5	18		
" 1952	243	13.8	196	11.1	2	8	Nil	Nil	8	33	5	5	21		
" 1951	265	15.5	209	12.3	9	33	1	3.65	8	30	5	5	19		
" 1950	286	16.9	173	10.2	6	21	Nil	Nil	9	31	6	6	21		
" 1949	258	16.0	183	11.3	7	26	Nil	Nil	11	43					
" 1948	275	17.0	170	10.5	11	38	Nil	Nil	14	50					
Avge 5 yrs. 1948-1952	265	15.8	186	11.1	7	25	0.2	0.73	10	37	5	5	20		

+1953 adjusted birth rate (comparability factor 0.93) - 15.2 per 1,000
 *1953 adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.18) - 11.0 per 1,000

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1953

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Cause of Death		M	F	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	2	2	4
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	0	0	0
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	1	0	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	0	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	...	0	1	1
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	0	0	0
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	0	0	0
8.	Measles	...	0	1	1
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases		0	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	3	4	7
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	2	0	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	0	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	0	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		13	5	18
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	0	0	0
16.	Diabetes	...	1	2	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system		8	5	13
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	13	2	15
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	2	3	5
20.	Other Heart disease	...	11	26	37
21.	Other circulatory diseases	...	2	2	4
22.	Influenza	...	2	0	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	0	2	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	7	3	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system		1	1	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	0	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	0	0	0
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	2	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	1	0	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	0	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	...	1	1	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		9	7	16
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	0	1	1
34.	All other accidents	...	3	3	6
35.	Suicide	...	0	1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	0	0	0
Totals		...	85	75	160

(Registrar General's Return for District)

Total deaths of persons belonging to the District,
Males 85, Females 75 - Total 160.

Compared with 196 in 1952 - A decrease of 36.

"Inward Transfers" - Males 31, Females 23 - Total 54.

"Outward Transfers" - Males 1, Females 2 - Total 3.

INWARD TRANSFERABLE DEATHS

(Showing place of Death, and numbers concerned)

	M	F
Astley Hospital, Astley	-	1
Aintree Hospital, Liverpool	1	-
Christopher Nursing Home, Wigan	2	-
County Hospital, Ormskirk	-	1
Firs Maternity Home, Leigh...	-	1
Hefferston Grange Sanatorium, Weaverham	-	1
Leigh Infirmary	3	1
Peasley Cross Isolation Hospital, St. Helens	-	1
Providence Hospital, St. Helens	-	1
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan ...	7	6
Salford Royal Hospital	2	-
Warrington General Hospital	7	2
Warrington Infirmary...	4	4
Warrington Maternity Home	1	-
Whalley Hospital, Wigan	3	1
42, Belmont Road, Liverpool	-	1
Co-operative House, St. Martins, Oswestry	-	1
Haigh Plantations, Wigan	-	1
Westleigh and Bedford Railway Station ...	1	-
	<hr/> <hr/> 31	<hr/> <hr/> 23

STATISTICS FOR 1953

Comparative Birth, Death and Mortality Rates, with Analysis
of Mortality and Morbidity

	Golb- orne Urban Dist- rict.	Eng- land and Wales	160 Cty. Boro's and Gt. Towns includ- ing London	160 Smaller Towns (Res'dt. Pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 census)	London Adminis- trative County
Births-	Rates per 1000 Home Population				
Live	15.2	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5
Still	0.64	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38
Deaths-					
All causes ...	11.0	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5
Typhoid and					
Paratyphoid fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia ...	0.11	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64
Whooping Cough	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Influenza ...	0.11	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephal- itis ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Tuberculosis...	0.23	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24
Case Notifications (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal					
Infection ...	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever	0.69	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02
Whooping Cough	4.60	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas ...	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	17.13	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09
Pneumonia ...	0.23	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioen- cephalitis)					
Paralytic ...	0.11	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07
Non-Paralytic	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Food Poisoning	0.00	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38

(Table continued on page 17)

Continued from Page 16

	Golb-orne Urban Dist- rict.	Eng- land and Wales	160 Cty. Boro's and Gt. Towns inclu- ding London	160 Smaller Towns (Res'dt. Pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1000 live births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	*	28.5	26.8	30.8	24.3
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...		0.00	1.1	1.3	0.9
Rates per 1000 total births, i.e., live and still births					
Still Births... ...	37.8	22.4	24.8	21.4	21.0
Maternal Mortality--					
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium ...	0.00	0.10	-	-	-
Abortion with toxæmia ...	0.00	0.01	-	-	-
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and puerperium ...	0.00	0.24	-	-	-
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	0.00	0.13	-	-	-
Abortion without sepsis and toxæmia	0.00	0.04	-	-	-
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.06	-	-	-
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium	0.00	0.18	-	-	-
Case Notifications-- (Corrected)					
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.00	18.23	24.33	12.46	28.61

*Rate per 1,000 related live births

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1953

	Births, Death and Infant Mortality Rates, 1944-1953			
	1944	1945	1946	1947
Births	20.27	18.9	20.2	23.2
Deaths	11.12	12.9	11.7	12.6
Infant Mortality	56	36	40	48

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1953

	Deaths from Cancer, 1948-1952			
	1949	1950	1951	1952
Golborne	6	3	4	8
Lowton	5	5	5	5
Kenyon	1	1	2	2
Culcheth	5	2	2	1
Total	39	19	26	34
Rate per 1,000 Population	2.41	*1.13	*1.52	*1.92
% of Total Deaths***	21.31%	10.98%	12.44%	17.34%
				*1.69
				18.12%

* Owing to the revised classification of cancerous diseases, these figures are not strictly comparable with those for previous years.

SECTION B

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

General comment on the prevalent zymotic diseases has already been made in the preface to this report and detailed information as to the incidence in the current year and for several years previously can readily be gained from the subsequent tables. It would therefore appear to be redundant to make further detailed comment, except perhaps in the case of Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis

Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis are vested in the County Council, Specialist Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Boards and the general practitioners. The County Council, on direction of the Minister of Health, are responsible for both prevention and after care of this condition, but local sanitary authorities are still empowered under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, to take all necessary action to prevent the spread of infection and the Medical Officer of Health still retains specific duties and responsibilities under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

The Chest Clinic is situated at 13, Church Street, Leigh, and is open on Mondays and Fridays for diagnosis and treatment as follows:-

Old Patients: Mondays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

New cases: Fridays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. E.H.W. Deane, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer, and Nurse A. Herbert, are in attendance at these sessions.

The incidence of notified cases of Tuberculosis during the year was 10, of which 7 were due to the respiratory form of the disease, and 3 to non-respiratory - an incidence which is only one half of the figure for 1952 (20), with an approximately even distribution as to sex. But apart from the unreliability of small actual numbers, these statistics have unfortunately been rendered unreliable by reason of the interpretation placed by the Ministry of Health on the particular Regulation of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, which deals with the procedure for notifying these cases on diagnosis, to the Medical Officer of Health of the district where the case is actually diagnosed, rather than to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the patient usually resides. In consequence, because of the fact that the diagnosis of this

condition is frequently left to the Chest Physician at the Hospital or Chest Clinic (of which there are none in this Urban District) it seems probable that a not negligible number of persons living in Golborne will have been notified statutorily, for statistical purposes, to the Medical Officer of Health of Leigh, Wigan, and possibly Warrington, resulting in an apparent lowered incidence in this District. It is greatly to be hoped that this unsatisfactory position will be remedied in the near future.

It will be noted from the relevant tabulation that the number of cases on the "Register" - still maintained on a voluntary basis, - at the end of the year was 110, as against 122 at 31st December, 1952.

Disinfection

In most cases of infectious disease, rooms, bedding and other articles are disinfected by Formic Aldehyde fumigation following the removal of the case to hospital, or when the patient is certified free from infection.

Arrangements are in operation with the Borough of Leigh for the use of their steam disinfecter when required for the disinfection of bedding and clothing.

		TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED										Hospital			
		Age Period - Years										Cases removed to Hospital		Deaths in Hospital	
		Total Cases at all ages	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-6	10-14	15-19	25-34	35-44	45-54	65 and over	Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital
Notifiable Diseases															
Scarlet Fever	12	-	-	1	-	2	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	-
Measles ***	294	3	26	43	44	52	122	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Whooping Cough	79	4	9	16	18	14	17	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Pneumonia	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Poliomyelitis	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Totals ***	393	8	35	60	62	68	151	5	-	3	-	1	-	2	16

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1953

Ward Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	Ward				Total
	St. Thomas	Heath	Park	Lowton	
Measles	122	40	50	45	294
Menigococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	1
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	2	1	1	-	4
Poliomyelitis	-	1	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	3	2	-	4	12
Whooping Cough	43	11	8	6	79
Totals	170	55	62	58	393

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Comparative Tables of Incidence and Mortality

Disease	1953						1952						1951						1950						1949						1948						Quinquennial Mean 1948-1952					
	Cases	Deaths																																								
Scarlet Fever	12	-	32	-	22	-	24	-	60	-	54	-	54	-	54	-	54	-	54	-	38.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							
Measles	294	1	48	-	185	1	241	-	142	-	142	-	149	-	149	-	149	-	149	-	153.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
Whooping Cough	79	1	61	-	29	-	150	-	26	-	26	-	84	-	84	-	84	-	84	-	70.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
Enteric Group Fevers	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1							
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	0.8	-						

(Table continued on Page 24)

(Table continued from Page 23)

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Comparative Tables of Incidence and Mortality

Disease	1953			1952			1951			1950			1949			1948			Quinquennial Mean 1948-1952		
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Cases	Deaths																
Acute Polio- myelitis and Poli-Enceph- alitis	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	0.6	-	-	-	
Meningococ- col Infect- ion	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	
Primary and Influenza	4	2	5	7	22	7	13	7	14	11	12	9	13.2	8.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tuberculosis	7	4	17	4	10	2	6	4	12	5	12	4	11.4	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tuberculosis Non-Respi- ratory	3	-	3	1	7	2	4	-	8	2	8	-	6.0	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	403	8	171	12	279	12	443	11	267	18	326	14	297.2	13.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1953

Age Groups of New Cases of Tuberculosis

Type	Sex	Age Groups										Total	
		0	1	2	5	10	15	20	25	35	45	55	
Respiratory	Male	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	4
	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	3
Non-Respiratory	Male	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Female	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES, 1953

Incidence and Mortality of Tuberculosis.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>					
Golborne	1	3	1	2	7
Lowton	1	-	-	-	1
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	2	-	-	-	2
<u>Deaths</u>					
Golborne	2	2	-	-	4
Lowton	-	-	-	-	-
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Removed from Register</u>					
Diagnosis not confirmed	-	-	1	1	2
Disease arrested and patient recovered	-	1	2	1	4
Removed to other Districts	2	4	4	3	13
<u>No. of cases on Register at 31st December, 1953</u>					
Golborne	16	16	13	15	60
Lowton	12	3	5	3	23
Kenyon	2	-	3	1	6
Culcheth	7	8	1	5	21
Total	37	27	22	24	110

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1953

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS
1953 and the period 1948-1952

	No. of Cases Notified		No. of Deaths		No. on Register at end of year		Total
	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	
Year 1953	7	3	4	-	64	46	110
Year 1952	17	3	4	1	68	54	122
" 1951	10	7	2	2	60	56	116
" 1950	6	4	4	-	55	49	104
" 1949	12	8	5	2	58	47	105
" 1948	12	8	4	-	53	42	95
Average of 5 years 1948-1952	11	6	4	1	59	50	109

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The water supply of the district is derived from the following sources:-

Golborne - Water supplied in bulk from deep wells situated in Golborne, but controlled by Ince-in-Makerfield U.D.C. and distributed by Golborne U.D.C.

Lowton - Water supplied in bulk by Liverpool Corporation through Abram, and also by Newton-le-Willows U.D.C. Both supplies distributed by Golborne U.D.C.

Kenyon and Culcheth - Water supplied and distributed by Warrington Corporation.

With the exception of a few wells at outlying farms where no public supply is available, all the houses in the district are directly connected to the public water mains.

The water supply is constant and has satisfied the purity standards of the Ministry of Health. With the exception of complaints regarding inadequate pressure in the Lowton area and in the Park Road area of Golborne, the quantity of water supplied was satisfactory; a booster scheme to augment supplies in the areas is now in progress.

Complaints have still been voiced regarding the hardness and the suspended solids - (chalk) in the water derived from the Ince U.D.C. Waterworks, despite the introduction of a carbonization plant designed to rectify the chemical conditions resulting in this deposition. It must, however, be appreciated that this process cannot be expected to remedy the position immediately; it must of necessity, by the nature of the chemical changes involved, be a process of gradual improvement for some months or even years.

No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination or plumbo solvent action.

Fourteen samples of water from the various public supplies were submitted for bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory. Three samples of water submitted for chemical analysis were found to be satisfactory, but showed heavy chalk deposits in Golborne water and a slight deposit of manganese in the Newton water supply.

The average daily consumption of water per head during 1953 was 26.08 gallons, exclusive of water used for trade purposes.

Number of houses with piped supplies:- (a) Direct from mains, 5,185; (b) By stand pipe, 0; (c) From private supplies, 3.

Drainage and Sewerage

With the exception of a number of houses situated at a considerable distance from any public drainage system, all premises in the district are now connected to the Council's sewers. Following the completion of the house connections scheme in the Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth districts, the conversion of privy and pail closets in these areas has proceeded steadily but it will be some years, at the present rate of progress, before these insanitary closets are completely eliminated.

Rivers and Streams

The pollution of the Millingford Brook with sewage from the Ashton-in-Makerfield district still continues to a considerable extent, and necessitates frequent clearing of the sludge to avoid nuisances arising therefrom.

Another nuisance which became prominent during the year was the flooding of Ellams Brook at Newton Hollows, and just above this point where the brook forms a common boundary between the three authorities - Golborne, Newton-le-Willows and Haydock. In the first instance the bed of the stream has probably silted up as the result of sewage sludge, causing flooding, which in turn has been the cause of the decay and death of vegetation, including a number of trees, which have fallen across the bed and further impeded the flow of the stream. This matter certainly calls for an early remedy, as not only is a very pleasant natural beauty spot endangered, but a definite danger to public health also exists as the result of the presence of pathogenic organisms derived from the sewage.

Closet Accommodation

Approximate numbers of the various types of closet accommodation provided in the district is as follows:-

Number of houses on water carriage system	...	...	5,066
do. middens	...	...	217
do. closets attached to these middens	...	...	341
do. dry ash pits (excluding middens)	...	...	12

Number of trough closets (Schools)	...	...	...	24
do. pail closets	...	...	...	86
do. waste water closets	...	...	...	1
do. moveable ashbins	...	...	...	5,031
do. fresh water closets	...	...	...	4,951

Twenty-six privies and seven pail closets were converted to fresh water closets during the year.

Public Cleansing

The collection and disposal of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority and is under the control of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Three motor vehicles, two of which are of modern design, are employed on this work, and refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

Schools

The unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation at certain schools has been improved by the conversion of the privy closets to individual fresh water closets; but further conversions and improved closet facilities are still required at three schools.

In some schools the cloakroom facilities and drying arrangements are still unsatisfactory, and the method of supplying drinking water, in the majority of schools, is still out of date.

The provision of more modern schools is very desirable, and two new schools, one in Golborne, and one in Culcheth, are under construction.

Housing

As will be seen from the detailed report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, the survey of housing defects has continued throughout the year, details of defective houses being recorded and appropriate action taken to remedy the more serious deficiencies, principally under Public Health Act procedure.

Shortage of labour and certain materials have been the cause of delay in securing necessary repairs to insanitary property and high costs have also adversely affected such improvements.

Considerable overcrowding still exists and much hardship and ill-health results therefrom. The most frequent cause of overcrowding is married members of families remaining in the home, or returning at a later date to live with parents, owing to the general shortage of houses. Growth of family has been the cause of overcrowding in some cases.

During the year 127 new houses and 8 bungalows were provided by the Council, and a further 24 houses were provided by the Coal Industry Housing Association for miners. 15 new private houses and 6 bungalows were also erected and occupied during the year.

Seven houses were demolished during the year, one of which was the subject of a demolition order made in 1952, the remaining six houses being demolished on undertakings given by the owners. One house was also closed during the year.

The implementation of the scheme to provide a prototype hostel on the Derby Road Housing Estate, referred to in last year's report, still stands deferred, owing to restriction on capital expenditure.

There are eight Council housing estates and 1,390 houses and bungalows are owned by the Council. These are distributed as follows:-

					Houses	Bungalows
Golborne -	(a)	St. Thomas's Ward	...	...	653	28
	(b)	Heath Ward	...	...	128	-
	(c)	Park Ward	...	...	92	2
Lowton	...	...	...	...	94	-
Culcheth -	(a)	Culcheth	...	...	149	10
	(b)	Glazebury	...	...	38	-
Kenyon	...	...	...	...	188	8
					<hr/>	<hr/>
		Total	...	...	1,342	48
					<hr/>	<hr/>

68 houses at Derby Road and 46 houses at Lowton Road, Golborne, 16 houses and 8 bungalows at Warrington Road, Glazebury, and 32 houses and 10 bungalows at Hampson Avenue, Culcheth, were also in course of erection at the end of the year.

SECTION D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Meat and Other Foods

The practice established several years ago of supplying meat from a central slaughter-house outside the district still continues, and all food preparation premises, including cafes, restaurants and snack bars, are kept under observation by your Sanitary Inspectors. These premises have been kept in a clean condition during the year, and there has been a gradual improvement in the standard of hygiene and equipment at these premises.

(b) Milk Supply

The bulk of work undertaken in this sphere has been concerned with the inspection of dairies and sampling of milk supplies for bacteriological examination. In general these investigations have proved satisfactory but as will be seen later in the report a high percentage (approximately 10%) of samples have shown the presence of the tubercle bacillus. In these cases the assistance of the veterinary inspector has been sought, and in every instance following inspection of a herd the affected cows have been detected and destroyed. It is, however, very disconcerting to have to record this unusually high proportion of positive findings, which serve to emphasize the great importance of the frequent sampling of milk supplies. A further point of the greatest interest is that in every "positive" case the milk sample was ungraded, a type the sale of which is now prohibited in this district.

No cases of infectious illness have arisen in which milk has been the vehicle of infection and it has been unnecessary to prohibit the sale of any supply. Five notices were, however, served under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, requiring the heat treatment of the milk supply during the investigation into the cases of tuberculous infection in milk.

SECTION E

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREADiphtheria Immunisation

This work has continued throughout the year, being undertaken both by General practitioners in their surgeries, in the homes of patients, and also by the Assistant Divisional Medical Officers at child welfare centres and special sessions.

Responsibility, of course, devolves on the Local Health Authority - i.e. Lancashire County Council.

During the year 151 children under fourteen years of age completed a course of primary immunisation, of which 130 were under the age of five years.

In addition to these 161 children received "booster" injections.

The number of children under fifteen years of age in an immunised state at 31st December, 1953, was 2,263.

The locally estimated child population (under 15 years of age) - 4,125.

Percentage of child population immunised ~ 54%.

Vaccination

During the year only 75 children were vaccinated, all but 4 of these vaccinations being successful. This total shows that not more than one in four of the children born during 1953 were given protection by vaccination, a situation which is most unsatisfactory.

Laboratory Facilities

General bacteriological investigations have been carried out during the year at the Pathological Department, Wigan Infirmary and at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester, which has dealt with material submitted both by general medical practitioners and by the Public Health Department - e.g. milk, water and ice-cream samples.

The chemical analysis of water, milk and other foods is carried out at the County Analyst's Laboratory, Preston.

Examinations Made During 1953

	Positive	Negative	Total
Sputum	1
Faeces	...	10	10
Urine	...	5	5

Ambulance Facilities

The County Council ambulance service has continued the conveyance of all types of case, i.e. infectious disease, emergency and consultative, within the Urban District boundary to hospitals, etc., elsewhere.

Part of the area, comprising Golborne township and most of the Lowton Area, is serviced from Newton-le-Willows ambulance station, whereas cases from Lowton St. Mary's, Culcheth and parts of the district bordering on the inter-divisional boundary are dealt with by the Leigh ambulance station.

This service has functioned in a very efficient and satisfactory manner.

The number of calls made on the ambulance service during the year was still further increased by one fifth over those in 1952, and are as follows:-

Emergency Calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	468
General Calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,270
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
							<hr/>
							<hr/>
							2,757

Hospital Accommodation

The majority of cases of infectious disease requiring hospital isolation have been admitted to Warrington Isolation Hospital, which is administered by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, the body nominally concerned with hospital treatment in this district; but small numbers have on occasion been removed to other isolation hospitals at Astley (Sanatorium) and Eccles (Ladywell).

No hospitals of any kind are situated in the Urban District.

Cases requiring general medical and nursing care are treated at hospitals in Wigan, Leigh or Warrington.

Arrangements are in operation for the admission of maternity cases to the General Hospital, Warrington, Victoria Park Maternity Home, Warrington, Whiston Hospital, The Firs Maternity Home, Leigh, Billinge Infirmary, and St. Mary's Hospital Manchester.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

This work, which comprises essentially such matters as the ante-natal and post-natal care of the expectant mother, health-visiting in the home, and the conduct of Child Welfare Centres, is the responsibility of the County Council, and its organisation and administration is part of the duty of the Divisional Health Committee and its officers. Care of the school-child under the provisions of the Education Act, 1944, is not usually regarded as the "Child Welfare Service", which deals solely with infants and small children under compulsory school age.

Within the Urban District responsibility is undertaken by Dr. H.G.M. Bennett, Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, and by two Health Visitors, Miss Keig, who is concerned mainly with Golborne township, and Miss Jenkinson, her colleague in the Lowton and Culcheth Districts. (The care of school children is also part of the duty of these officers in the capacity of School Nurses).

Details of the Ante-natal Clinics and Child Welfare Centres held in the Urban District are as follows:-

(a) Ante-natal Clinics

Old Council Offices, Worsley Street, Golborne.
Alternate Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Dr. Bennett, Miss Keig and Midwives concerned with cases.

Attendance, etc., during 1953

<u>No. of sessions</u>	<u>No. of individual women attending during year</u>	<u>Total Attendances</u>
26	102	322

(b) Child Welfare Centres

- (i) Old Council Offices, Golborne.
 Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
 Dr. Bennett and Miss Keig.
- (ii) Youth Centre, Newton Road, Lowton.
 Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
 Dr. Bennett and Miss Jenkinson.
- (iii) Social Centre, Churchill Avenue, Culcheth.
 Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
 Dr. Bennett and Miss Jenkinson.

Attendances, etc., during 1953

	No. of Children			Total Attendances		
	Born in 1953	Born in 1952	Born in 1951-48	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-4
Golborne ...	81	83	102	1,886	762	618
Lowton ...	45	22	50	457	151	336
Culcheth ...	63	40	71	634	199	305
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	189	145	223	2,977	1,112	1,259

School Health

Schools are visited periodically by Dr. Bennett, Miss Keig and Miss Jenkinson, in order to carry out the statutory periodic medical examinations of school children, and also cleanliness inspections.

Unfortunately there are no School Clinics situated in this district, so that school children requiring attention for minor ailments, dental, orthopaedic, ophthalmic, ear, nose and throat defects, under the Education Authority's Scheme of treatment, must be referred to the School Clinics in Ashton-in-Makerfield, Cadishead, Leigh or Earlestown.

District Nursing Services

Domiciliary nursing services have been rendered during the whole of the year by the staff of district nurses and nurse-midwives administered by No. 10 Health Division, Lancashire County Council.

The ladies concerned are:-

- Mrs. E. Monks, "Highfield," Stone Cross Lane, Lowton.
- Mrs. D. Woodward, 23, Bevin Avenue, Culcheth.
- Mrs. E.M. Emerson, 46, Henry Street, Leigh.

Midwifery Services

The Lancashire County Council is the Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts, and the following is a list of the Midwives and Nurse-Midwives practising in the districts:-

- Mrs. M. Branch, 54, Bridge Street, Golborne.
- Mrs. E. Smith, 22, Beech Avenue, Lowton.
- Mrs. D. Woodward, 23, Bevin Avenue, Culcheth.

Maternity and Nursing Homes

One registered private maternity home is situated in the Urban District - i.e. Five Acres Nursing Home, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. Regular inspection and supervision of this Home is maintained by the Divisional Medical Officer.

Home Help Facilities

This permissive service is available under the Lancashire County Council Divisional Health Scheme, (No. 10 Health Division),

to homes requiring such assistance by reason of the presence in the household of a case of sickness (including mental illness and deficiency), advanced pregnancy, a parturient woman, an aged person or a child under school leaving age.

The service is not a free one; contributions must be made by the applicants towards the cost of provision in accordance with scales adopted by the County Council. Applicants are, however, old age pensioners in straightened circumstances whose incomes are below the minimum prescribed by the scales, and who therefore receive this help free of cost.

Home Help Organiser: Miss P. Butler, Divisional Health Offices, The Old Rectory, Winwick.

Mental Health Services

The care and after care of persons suffering from mental defectiveness and mental illness, and investigation of cases in which persons are alleged to be so suffering, is undertaken, under the County Council scheme, by the Duly Authorised Officer. Although supervision of such cases in the home is also undertaken by a lady mental health worker, her principal concern is with cases of mental defectiveness.

Duly Authorised Officers: Mr. P.D. Parker, 12, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. Mr. F. Griffin, Post Office, Melling, Liverpool.

Lady Mental Health Visitor: Miss M.V. Phillips.

A duty roster is maintained to cover times other than normal office hours. Should the services of the Duly Authorised Officer be required during these times, application should be made to the Ambulance Station, Tel. No. Newton-le-Willows 2013; the caller will then be advised how to get in touch with the Duly Authorised Officer on duty.

Health Education

Health education, although specifically a responsibility of the County Council under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, yet remains a responsibility of the Local Sanitary Authority under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 and in this work the Public Health Department co-operates with the County Divisional Health staff.

Posters and pamphlets are displayed and distributed at Welfare Centres, Clinics, Factories, Canteens, etc., and film

exhibitions are arranged from time to time.

Other Health Authority Services

Information or assistance on any of the services outlined above in this section may be obtained on application to the Divisional Medical Officer, No. 10 Health Division, The Old Rectory, Winwick, near Warrington. Tel. No. Warrington 3644-5.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY
INSPECTOR - 1953

To the Chairman and Members
of the Golborne Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1953.

During the year the work of the Public Health Department has proceeded satisfactorily and much time and energy has been expended to improve the general standard in the environmental health field. Day to day attention has been given to the improvement of living conditions, safety of food supplies and other health measures, which cover a wider field of activity than is usually appreciated by the general public.

Once again the repair of defective dwelling houses has been one of the chief considerations and although there have been delays in carrying out repairs due to owners not giving out the work on the receipt of notices and contractors failing to carry out the work promptly, shortages of certain building materials do not appear to have interfered with the repair of property to the same extent as in previous years. Many owners and agents, however, continue to complain that repairs cannot be carried out on present day rents and ignore all notices until legal proceedings are threatened. The effect of the new Housing Repairs and Rents Bill on this aspect of housing will be awaited with interest.

The total number of defects remedied during the year was 1,198, an increase of 74 over the previous year. The number of defects found during the year was 1,066, and in spite of the difficulties encountered it was possible for the first time since the war period to overtake some of the arrears of repairs and reduce the number of outstanding defects from 308 at the end of 1952 to 176 at the end of the year under review. Whilst some satisfaction may be gained from this trend of events there is, however, no room for complacency as much repair and improvement work still remains to be carried out on sub-standard houses and the ever increasing cost of building work is having a detrimental effect on this aspect of housing.

During the year the total number of statutory notices served was 188, an increase of 15 compared with the previous year and whilst it is usual to have a number of notices outstanding at the end of each year, the number of such notices was reduced from 79 at the end of 1952 to 54 at the end of 1953.

As in the past few years, a considerable amount of time has been devoted to the inspection of food premises and the improvement of food handling processes. A total of 534 visits were made to premises connected with the preparation, storage and sale of food, and although this is largely a matter of education to modern methods and essentially of a long term character, there is increasing evidence of a gradual improvement in the standard of food handling processes. The co-operation of traders in bringing their premises up to modern hygienic standards, in many cases at a considerable expense, has also contributed to the improvement in food hygiene in the district.

It will be seen that the number of privy and pail closets converted (33) to the water carriage system is again less than the previous year (77) and although the Council increased the conversion grant to £10 during the latter half of the year, owners generally have not taken advantage of this added incentive to eliminate these insanitary closets.

The public cleansing service has endeavoured to provide a satisfactory service but it became apparent during the year that a weekly collection of dustbin refuse could not be maintained with the existing vehicles and staff. During the past seven years the number of inhabited houses in the district has increased by more than 1,000 and whilst the additional work necessitated by the removal of refuse from these and additional business premises has been carried out during this period without extending the interval between collections beyond a week, it became apparent during the year that even in spite of a revision of collection areas and other efforts to speed up the service a weekly collection of refuse could not be restored without the provision of an additional vehicle.

In conclusion, I wish to accord my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest in all matters affecting the environmental health services, and to the Clerk and other officers for their helpful co-operation and assistance during the year. To the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Crawford, I would tender my very sincere thanks for his continued help and support in the many aspects of the work, to the Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Longworth, and the Clerical Assistant, Miss Parr and later Miss Sumner, for their loyal co-operation at all times.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J. BLAKELEY.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT
Summary of Visits and Inspections

Work Carried Out to Remedy Defects Discovered and Dealt with under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, etc.

Work carried out	Public Health Acts	Hous-ing Act	Other Acts & Orders
SANITARY ACCOMMODATION			
Privies converted to water closets ...	26	-	-
Pail closets converted to water closets	7	-	-
Additional water closets provided ...	5	-	-
Pail closets abolished	7	-	-
Pail closets repaired	3	-	-
New outside water closet buildings provided	3	-	-
Defective water closet buildings repaired	11	-	-
Defective water closet supply pipes repaired	10	-	-
Defective water closet cisterns repaired	5	-	-
Defective water closet pedestals renewed	1	-	-
Ashpits abolished...	16	-	-
DRAINAGE			
Choked drains cleared	38	-	-
Choked gullies cleared	1	-	-
Defective drains repaired	2	-	-
Drains reconstructed	4	2	-
Additional drains provided	43	4	-
Additional drain inspection chambers provided	1	-	-
New drainage systems provided...	3	-	-
Drains provided with vent shafts	8	-	-
New eaves gutters provided	61	1	-
Defective eaves gutters repaired ...	20	3	-
Downspouts disconnected from sewer ...	2	-	-
Downspouts repaired or renewed ...	35	4	-
Additional downspouts provided ...	3	-	-
New soil and waste pipes provided ...	5	2	-
New sinks provided	5	5	-
New sink waste pipes provided...	5	2	-
Defective sink waste pipes repaired...	1	-	-
New septic tanks provided	1	-	-
HOUSING			
New floors provided	5	12	-
Defective floors repaired	9	4	-
Defective skirtings repaired or renewed	2	1	-
New window frames provided	10	15	-
Defective window frames repaired ...	15	2	-
Broken window cords renewed	19	-	-

Work carried out	Public Health Acts	Hous-ing Act	Other Acts & Orders
Housing—continued			
Additional windows provided	-	3	-
Ceilings raised	-	9	-
Defective wallplaster renewed (rooms)	84	34	-
Defective ceiling plaster renewed (rooms)	19	15	-
Dampness. Provision of dampcourse ...	17	3	-
do Cement rendering of walls...	1	2	-
New staircases provided	-	1	-
Provision of handrail and repairs to staircases	1	10	-
Ventilated foodstores provided...	1	3	-
Permanent ventilation provided to existing foodstore	-	2	-
Permanent ventilation provided to bedrooms	-	3	-
New washing boilers provided	2	3	-
Defective washing boilers repaired ...	2	-	-
New firegrates provided	3	9	-
Defective firegrates repaired ...	10	4	-
Bedrooms partitioned for separate access	-	3	-
New doors and frames provided	-	16	-
Doors and frames repaired	19	4	-
External walls rebuilt	-	4	-
External walls repointed	61	2	-
External walls cement rendered...	-	1	-
Defective chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	96	2	-
Defective roofs repaired	88	2	-
Yard paving repaired or renewed	1	6	-
Defective dustbins renewed	107	-	-
Dirty and verminous houses sprayed, fumigated and cleansed	6	-	-
Other premises sprayed	1	-	-
Houses demolished	-	7	-
Houses closed	-	1	-
New Bathrooms provided	-	4	-
Baths provided	-	5	-
Lavatory basins provided	-	3	-
Hot water systems installed	-	6	-
New cookers provided	-	4	-
Domestic water supply pipes renewed ...	34	-	-
Other repairs	9	3	-

Work carried out	Public Health Acts	Hous-ing Act	Other Acts & Orders
OTHER WORKS			
Insufficient sanitary accommodation in factories remedied.	-	-	5
Unsuitable or defective factory closets remedied	-	-	2
Limewashing of bakehouses	-	-	5
Limewashing of other factories ...	-	-	1
Totals	954	231	13

Number of defects or nuisances outstanding at end of 1952 ... ... ... ... ...	... 308
Number of defects or nuisances arising during 1953	... 1,066
Number of defects or nuisances abated during 1953	... 1,198
Number of defects or nuisances outstanding at end of 1953 ... ... ... ... ...	... 176
Number of complaints received...	... 190
Number of informal notices served ... ... ...	... 124
Number of statutory notices served ... ... ...	... 188
Legal proceedings...	Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Details of Statutory Notices Served

Section of Act	Reason for Notice	No. of Notices Served	No. of Notices Complied with	Outstanding at end of year
39	Defective drains, sinks, etc.	8	12 (5 from 1952)	1
39	Defective eaves- gutters, down- spouts, etc.	32	40 (22 from 1952)	14
44	Insufficient sanitary accom- modation	8	8	-
45	Defective closets	23	20 (8 from 1952)	11
75	Defective dust- bins.	24	26 (2 from 1952)	-

(Table continued on Page 46)

(Table continued from Page 45)

Section of Act	Reason for Notice	No. of Notices Served	No. of Notices Complied with	Outstanding at end of year
93	Other conditions prejudicial to health	76	90 (42 from 1952)	28
138	Insufficient water supply	17	17	-

Fifty-four notices on twenty-eight properties were not complied with on the expiration of the time allowed and the necessary repairs were carried out after notification that legal proceedings would be instituted.

Proceedings were instituted in respect of ten notices on four houses but were subsequently withdrawn on the repairs having been completed in the interim period before the cases were heard.

The requirements of sixteen other notices, chiefly in connection with the renewal of defective dustbins, were carried out in default.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection and Disposal of Refuse

During the year the refuse collection service has been carried on with three vehicles. The two Karrier 10 cubic yard side loading refuse collection vehicles purchased in 1948 have been used for the removal of dustbin refuse, and these wagons have continued to provide satisfactory service. The Ford Thames wagon has been used for the removal of privy and pail refuse, salvage and other special work. This vehicle is, however, now over ten years old and is approaching the period for renewal.

Apart from a short period during the early part of the year, it was not possible to maintain a weekly collection of dustbin refuse owing to the continued growth of the district and the interval between collections of this type of refuse became steadily extended to nine and sometimes ten days. Whilst the additional work necessitated by the removal of refuse from new houses and converted premises in various parts of the district had been undertaken by the existing vehicles and staff during the past few years, without increasing the interval between collections, it became apparent during the year that a weekly collection could no longer be maintained and the Council decided early in 1954 to purchase an additional refuse collection vehicle.

Although the number of privy and pail closets are being gradually reduced by conversion to the water carriage system, the removal of the contents of these types of closet create some difficulty and must remain an objectionable task for some time until total conversion can be achieved.

The trade refuse scheme, which came into operation in July, 1952, has been continued during the year under review. Under this scheme the contents of one dustbin are emptied free and a charge of 6d per bin is made for the removal of other refuse from business premises. Where loads of refuse are removed a charge of 15/- per load is made. During the year one load and 821 bins of trade refuse were removed.

Refuse has been disposed of at four tips, situated at Winwick Lane and Moss Lane, Lowton, Dam Lane, Golborne, and Warrington Road, Culcheth. The latter tip was used during the winter months only and a new tip was commenced on land adjoining the sewage disposal works at Heyshoot Lane, Glazebury. These tips are adequate for the district, and refuse is disposed of, as far as possible, by means of controlled tipping on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health. The provision of suitable mechanical equipment would greatly facilitate the control of the tipped refuse.

The total amount of refuse dealt with shows an increase of 149 loads and a total increased weight of 20 tons, 12 cwts, in comparison with the previous year. Although the total number of privies emptied was reduced to 253 due to the gradual conversion of this type of closet to the water carriage system, the contents of 1,243 more dustbins and 20 pails were emptied during the year. Details are indicated below.

	1953	1952
Number of loads of refuse removed	2,720	2,571
Approximate weight of refuse removed	5,165 tons 17 cwts	5,145 tons 5 cwts
Total number of dustbins emptied	233,021	231,778
Total number of ashpits emptied	1,331	1,584
Total number of pails emptied	3,760	3,740

The cost of the refuse collection and disposal service (year ended 31st March, 1954) shows a considerable increase over the previous year due to increased wages, haulage, and materials. Details are shown below:-

		1953			1952		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Total Net Cost (Collection and Disposal)	8,315	18	4	6,910	14	2	
Cost per 1,000 of population	481	11	1	391	15	4	
Cost per head of population		9	8		7	10	
Cost per ton...	1	12	2	1	6	4	

One hundred and seven dustbins were supplied to private houses for the replacement of defective bins, fifteen of which were supplied in default of the owners having failed to comply with the requirements of notices served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Of the twenty-four notices served under this section, no appeals were lodged against the requirements of the notices.

Seventy-nine dustbins were also renewed at Council houses during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING: 1953

Monthly Analysis of Refuse Collection and Disposal

Month	GOLBORNE			LOWTON			KENNYON and CULCHETH		
	Emptied			Emptied			Emptied		
	Weight	Ashpits	Barrels	Weight	Ashpits	Barrels	Weight	Ashpits	Barrels
January	105	232-15-0	9,817	44	83	167-0-0	6,621	81	63
February	81	193-10-0	9,125	452	57	112-0-0	4,853	50	52
March	98	210-19-0	10,136	-37	70	130-11-0	5,203	106	73
April	101	209-0-0	9,815	-24	77	147-5-0	6,467	107	88
May	94	210-0-0	9,636	11	38	115-7-1	5,371	41	81
June	80	186-10-0	8,515	-30	62	110-18-2	5,618	46	48
July	74	137-1-3	7,478	1	31	50	80-0-1	3,953	22
August	95	198-1-0	9,111	10	76	124-15-0	5,383	56	53
September	85	174-10-0	7,935	-	33	48	85-1-0	3,925	28
October	110	216-10-0	10,055	7	42	86	155-6-2	6,561	111
November	105	201-15-0	9,161	5	26	64	112-4-0	4,651	41
December	119	225-13-2	10,540	E	28	100	161-14-1	6,504	134
Totals	1,147	2,396-5-1	111,324	46451	826	1,502-2-3	65,110	823	713

SALVAGE

The collection of salvage has continued throughout the year and although the demand for mixed waste paper improved somewhat during the early part of the year the price obtained for this material remained at £4 per ton until November when the price was increased to £5. 10. 0. During the latter part of the year cardboard was baled and sold separately and a slightly higher price was obtained for this material.

Rags and other textiles also suffered as a result of these low prices and the income from this type of salvage was reduced. The recovery of tins from the tips was continued when the necessary labour was available. It will be appreciated that the salvage service is unable to operate as an economic unit with such low prices obtaining and the promise of increased prices for paper salvage during the coming year is eagerly awaited.

The total amount of waste paper and cardboard collected (136 tons, 11 cwts) was 7 tons, 12 cwts, 2 qtrs more than that collected during the previous year, but the income from the sale of this material was reduced by almost £570, or nearly one half, due to the lower prices referred to above.

The salvage bonus scheme for the workmen employed on the refuse collection and salvage services was continued during the year and a bonus based on the tonnage of paper collected was distributed at the end of each quarter. The total bonus paid during the year amounted to £137.

Materials Salvaged

	1953			1952		
	Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	Tons	Cwts	Qrs.
Waste paper	126	3	3	128	18	2
Cardboard	10	7	1	0	0	0
Rags	0	3	0	0	6	1
Tins	7	7	2	3	0	2
Totals...	144	1	2	132	5	1

Receipts from Salvage

	1953			1952		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	...	530	9	6
Cardboard	...	...	...	67	10	9
Rags	...	...	...	2	2	0
Tins	...	...	...	7	9	5
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	£607	11	8	£1,180	4	3½
	<hr/>			<hr/>		

In addition, 29 tons of kitchen waste were collected by contractors from hostels and other premises in the district during the year.

HOUSING

The general standard of housing in the district varies somewhat. In the industrial area a considerable number of sub-standard houses built forty to sixty years ago require improvement and modern amenities. Many houses of this type are also overcrowded. In the other parts of the district housing conditions are fairly good.

During the year 310 houses were inspected under the provisions of the Public Health Act and Housing Act, 17 of which were recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations.

Five houses were completely reconditioned to the standard of a satisfactory house as required by the Housing Act, 1949 and these schemes have been carried out voluntarily by the owners; the works recorded under the Housing Acts on Pages 43 and 44 being largely carried out by this means. In all other cases essential repairs have been carried out. Owing to the present high cost of building repairs and the difficulty of complying with the "reasonable expense" clause of Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, action has had to be

taken under the Public Health Act, 1936, in most cases.

Although the position has eased somewhat during the past year, some delay is still experienced in getting repairs carried out quickly owing to the failure of contractors to carry out repairs promptly after undertaking the work. In these cases much extra work is created by the necessity for repeated visits to houses where a contractor fails to carry out repairs in a reasonable time and involves unnecessary correspondence and telephone calls before the work is eventually completed. In many cases delays have been caused by the attitude of some owners who ignore all notices and correspondence until legal proceedings are threatened and then require a contractor to carry out the repairs at short notice to avoid police court proceedings. This attitude appears to arise from a grievance against the Rents Restriction Acts and the adoption of a policy of not doing repairs until they are made to.

The majority of these defects occur in houses which cannot be rendered fit at a reasonable expense and the constant attention to this sub-standard property takes more of your Sanitary Inspector's time than is often appreciated, coupled with the uncomfortable fact that one is merely touching the fringe of this problem and not getting down to the complete repair and provision of modern amenities in these houses.

Until the supply of new houses reaches present day requirements this problem will increase year by year and it is not without some sense of frustration that housing work is being carried on at present. The effect of the provisions contained in the new Housing Repairs and Rents Bill on this problem will be awaited with interest.

No applications for improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949, were received during the year.

During the year seven houses were demolished, one of which was the subject of a Demolition Order made in 1952. The remaining six houses were demolished on undertakings given by the owners on the tenants being rehoused by the Council. One house found to be in a bad state of repair on the vacation of the tenant, was closed voluntarily by the owners pending the making of Demolition Orders on the remaining houses in the block. No Demolition Orders were actually made during the year.

Number of New Houses Erected during the Year

	Prefabricated Houses		Traditional Permanent Houses
	Tem- porary	Per- manent	
(i) By the local authority	--	--	135
(ii) By other local authority	--	--	-
(iii) By other bodies or persons	--	24	21

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	310
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	1,253					
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...	17	
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	23					
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	17	
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	221	

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	129
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Houses Demolished or Closed during the Year without Service of Formal Notice

Number of houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	1

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(a)	Proceedings under section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
	(a) By owners	Nil
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	84
	(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	(a) By owners	78
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936.	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
	(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
	(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

Housing Act. Part IV - Overcrowding

(Accurate figures not available)

(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year (approx.)	253
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein (approx.) ...	334

(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein (approx.)	1,382
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	57
(c) (1)	Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year - Council owned Houses - 11 Privately owned Houses - 25	36
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	134
(d)	Number of cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps to abate overcrowding ...	0
(e)	Number of houses in respect of which certificates for the permitted number of persons were issued...	107

Vermilion Houses

During the year three Council houses and three privately owned houses were found to be infested with bugs, and the premises, bedding and furniture were treated twice with liquid insecticide containing D.D.T. In all the cases the infestation was of a minor character and the treatment was carried out by the Health Department. The premises were kept under observation after treatment and no evidence of reinfestation was found.

DRAINAGE AND CONVERSIONS

During the year one hundred and forty-five visits were made in connection with the conversion of privy and pail closets and one hundred and twenty-six inspections were made in respect of the examination and repair of drains. In addition to thirty-nine choked drains and gullies being cleared, two defective drains were repaired, six drains were reconstructed entirely and forty-seven additional drains were provided, largely in connection with the conversion scheme. Eight ventilation shafts were provided in connection with these drains. In three cases a new system of drainage was provided and the premises were connected to the sewer.

Twenty-six privies and seven pail closets were converted to fresh water closets, and five additional water closets were provided during the year. Three new closet buildings were provided in connection with these conversions. Seven pail closets were also demolished and three pail closets were repaired as a temporary measure.

The number of privies converted is considerably less than the number carried out during the previous year (70) and in spite of the increase in the Council's conversion grant made during the year, it is somewhat disappointing to find that owners are not taking advantage of the increased payment to convert these closets.

The conversions carried out have been largely undertaken in the "owner-occupier" type of house, and little progress has been made with the conversion of privy and pail-closets provided for small rented houses and cottages, many of which are in a worse condition than those converted from a structural and sanitation point of view.

Whilst it is appreciated that many owners of this type of property are unable to carry out this work on present rents after providing for the execution of essential repairs, it is obvious that this highly insanitary and objectionable type of closet will not be entirely eliminated until compulsory powers of conversion are put into operation.

With a view to providing a further incentive to owners to convert privy and pail closets to the water carriage system, the Council increased the conversion grant from £4 to £10 from July, 1953 for a period of two years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Total number of cases of infectious disease investigated	20
Total number of visits made	39
Number of houses fumigated	18
Number of library books disinfected	5
Number of school books disinfected	7

Full details of all cases are obtained and recorded, and rooms, bedding and other articles are fumigated with Formaldehyde after the patient is removed to hospital or when the patient is certified free from infection.

WATER SUPPLY

Number of dwelling houses with piped supply	5,185
Number of dwelling houses supplied from wells	3
Number of dwelling houses supplied by stand pipe... ...	0

The dwelling houses which derive their water supply from wells are situated a considerable distance from a public supply, and it is not practicable to provide a piped water supply for these premises. A sample of water from one of these wells was found

to be satisfactory and the remaining two houses were the subject of demolition order procedure during 1954.

Fourteen samples of water from the main public supplies in the district were submitted for bacteriological examination, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

During the year numerous complaints were received from occupiers of houses in the Golborne district regarding insufficient water supply. In some cases it was possible to effect an improvement by cleaning out the main supply pipe, but in the case of thirty-four houses it was necessary to renew entirely the water supply pipes from the main. Seventeen statutory notices were served in respect of these deficiencies, all of which were complied with during the year. A total of 267 visits were made in connection with this work.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat and Other Foods

As the emergency measure of slaughtering all animals in a central slaughter-house outside the area of the Golborne Urban District has continued during the year, inspection of all meat is carried out by the supplying authority prior to delivery to the local shops.

One private slaughter-house in the district was, however, used, with the approval of the Ministry of Food, for the slaughter of pigs under licence for individual self-suppliers of meat. The number of pigs slaughtered under these arrangements was considerably less than the previous year due largely to the reduced number of pigs being kept as a result of the higher cost of feeding stuffs and the more plentiful supply of fresh meat in the shops.

The following table indicates the number of animals slaughtered and inspected:-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1953						
Animals Inspected and Carcasses Condemned						
	Cattle -ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	
Number killed (if known) ...	-	-	-	1	19	
Number Inspected	-	-	-	1	18	
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis-</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	1	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned... ...	-	-	-	-	7	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	-	44.44	
<u>Tuberculosis only-</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	

In one case notification of slaughter was received too late for inspection to be carried out.

Of the number of animals shown above, 6 pigs and 1 sheep were slaughtered at the private slaughter-house referred to and the remainder on farms and other premises, many of the latter being entirely unsuitable for the purpose.

Unsound Food

The following table indicates the various foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption, all of which were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and destroyed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1953

Food Unfit for Human Consumption

Nature of Food	Type of Packing	Quantity Condemned Lbs.
Apricots	30-lb. tin	30
Apricot Pulp	11-lb. tins	22
Baked Beans...	16-oz. tins	2
Cheese	6-oz. pkts.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cheese Spread	6 portion pkts.	1
Cooked Ham	10 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tins 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. tins 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tin 15 tins	64 $\frac{3}{4}$ 27 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ 204 $\frac{1}{2}$
	(Various weights)	
	21 tins	277 $\frac{1}{2}$
	(Various weights)	
Corned Beef...	6-lb. tins	12
Evaporated Milk	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tins	1
Glace Cherries	4-oz. pkts.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Grapes	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tin 1-lb. tin	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Gravy Powder	2-oz. pkts.	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Greengages	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tins	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jelly Crystals	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ -oz. pkts.	27
Jellied Veal	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tin 6-lb. tins	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ 12
Lambs Liver...	-	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ox Tongue	6-lb. tins	84
Peach Pulp	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. tins	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pears...	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tin 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tins 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tins 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tins	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Peas	-	
Pineapple Rings	30-lb. cans	1,020
Pork Sausage...	-	10
Plums...	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tin	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Plum Tomatoes	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tins	7
Pig Carcasses	5	591
Pig Plucks	1	7
Pig Lungs	5	15
Pork Trimmings	-	1,057
Rolled Bacon	-	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Suet	$\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. pkt.	$\frac{1}{2}$

Thirty-three visits were made in connection with the inspection of food during the year.

Total weight of foodstuffs condemned:- 1 Ton 12 Cwts. 3lbs.

Food Preparation and Storage Premises

Frequent inspection of butchers and other food shops, cafes, restaurants, canteens and all food preparation premises has been carried out during the year. 534 visits were made for this purpose and much time has been spent in advising all food traders of the dangers arising from the careless handling of food in the course of preparations, storage and sale. The gradual progress made during the past few years in the improvement of food handling processes has been well maintained during the period under review.

Great stress has been placed on the need of a high standard of personal hygiene for persons employed in these trades, and the majority of food handlers fully appreciate this matter but unfortunately, in some cases, changes in the personnel of food shops and premises, chiefly in the younger staff who leave to take up other employment after receiving instruction in food hygiene principles, often make this task difficult.

Considerable improvements have been effected in premises and equipment, and special mention must be made of the co-operation of certain traders who have reconstructed or altered their shops to comply with modern hygienic standards for premises and equipment, which should be an example to other traders to bring their premises up to the required standard.

The chief improvements carried out during the year were new modern shop fronts, tiling of walls, new non-slip tile floors with coved skirtings, new screened display counters and other shop fittings.

Although the majority of food traders are making every effort to improve and modernise their premises there are some who are only maintaining a reasonable standard because they are compelled to do so and as the general public become more clean food conscious these traders must bring their premises up to modern standards or go out of business.

The number of food premises, classified according to type of business, in the district at the end of the year was as follows:-

Grocers and Mixed Shops	...	...	...	69
Butchers...	...	...	...	12
Fish Friers	...	...	...	11

Bakers ... ... ...	...	...	...	10
Cafes and Snack Bars ...	...	...	...	7
Confectioners ... ...	...	...	...	6
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	...	...	...	5
Chemists ... ...	...	...	...	4

Pamphlets dealing with the various aspects of clean food production were distributed to food traders during the year.

During the year two persons were registered as hawkers' of fish, fruit and vegetables and one hawker's storage premises was registered under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938. With the exception of premises associated with the manufacture and sale of ice cream which are referred to later in the report, the number of food preparation premises and hawkers on the register at the end of the year was as follows:-

Manufacturers of Meat and Fish Products -	Fish Friers ...	11
	Butchers...	10
	Grocers ...	8
	Confectioners...	5
Hawkers of Meat Products, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables resident in the district	...	...
	...	10
Hawkers' Storage Premises ...	...	8
Hawkers of Meat Products, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables from other districts	...	25

Food Byelaws

Model byelaws relating to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and the Sale of Food in the Open Air are in operation in the district. In three cases warnings were given to shopkeepers regarding unprotected foodstuffs displayed so as to be liable to contamination, but generally there has been a gradual improvement in the standard of food handling since the byelaws were put into operation, and this is largely a question of education of all concerned in the food trades in the necessity for hygienic food handling practices.

Bakehouses

Number of bakehouses on register	...	...	...	15
Number of inspections made during the year	...	...	...	40

These bakehouses are in good structural condition and, with the exception of the following defects, all statutory requirements appear to have been carried out and the premises kept in a satisfactory state.

Defects Found

Limewashing not carried out	6
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MILK SUPPLY

In addition to dairies situated on farm premises there are three dairies registered in the district, all of which are small and used mainly for the storage of milk from the wholesale supplier, pending delivery by retail.

One hundred visits were made to dairies and milk shops during the year.

Six new distributors were registered during the year and the total number of registered milk distributors is seventy-three, these persons operating from the following premises:-

(a) Dairies in the district	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Dairy farms in the district	...	...	...	...	16
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies (Bottled Milk only)				...	37
(d) Premises outside the district	...	...	...	...	17

Milk (Special Designations) Orders

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, control the licensing and distribution of designated milk, the former regulation relating to Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk and the latter Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk.

Four new licences were granted under these Regulations, chiefly in connection with the sale of Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk, and the total number of licences issued during the year was as follows:-

Tuberculin Tested - Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Supplementary	...	...	...	...	6
Accredited - Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Supplementary	...	...	...	...	0
Pasteurised - Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Supplementary	...	...	...	...	10
Sterilised - Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	37
	Supplementary	...	...	...	...	9

Milk Sampling

During the year all the milk produced in the district, and milk supplies from outside areas have been sampled regularly. These samples have been submitted for the Tuberculosis Test and Methylene Blue Test, and in the case of heat treated milk, the Phosphatase Test for Pasteurised Milk and the Turbidity Test for Sterilised Milk.

A total of 106 samples were taken during the year and the results of these are as follows:-

<u>Type of Milk</u>	<u>Methylene Blue Test</u>		<u>Tuberculosis Test</u>		<u>Turbidity Test</u>
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Negative	Positive	Satisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	10	5	15	-	-
Accredited ...	5	-	5	-	-
Ungraded ...	43	3	39	7	-
Pasteurised ...	18	-	14	-	-
Sterilised	-	-	-	-	21

Nineteen samples of Pasteurised milk also passed the Phosphatase Test but the Methylene Blue Test on one sample was rendered void due to the atmospheric shade temperature being over 65° F.

Seven samples of ungraded milk, the highest number for many years, were found to contain evidence of Tuberculous infection, and immediate notification was sent to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who carried out an examination of the herd in each case. Five cows, one each from five of the herds concerned, were removed and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, whilst three cows had been removed from another herd in the interim period between the sample having been taken and the commencement of the investigation, which proved negative. In the remaining case all the group samples were found to be negative and no animals were seized.

Four notices were served under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, requiring the heat treatment of the milk supply from four herds during the investigation into the source of infection; the milk supply from the other three herds being already adequately heat treated.

Details of eight unsatisfactory samples submitted for the Methylene Blue Test were referred to the Milk Production Officer of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee for investigation and remedy.

The following table shows the results of milk samples taken, together with comparative figures for the previous five years.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1953

Examination of Milk Samples, 1948-1952 & 53.

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Type of Milk	Year	No. of Samples taken	Nature of Test						Carried out			Tuberculosis		
			Methylene Blue	Phosphatase	Un-Satis.	Satis.	Un-Satis.	Satis.	Un-Satis.	Satis.	Carried out	Turbidity	Pos-itive	Spoilt
Tuberculin Tested	1953	15	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-
	1952	10	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-
	1951	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
	1950	7	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
	1949	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
	1948	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Accredited	1953	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
	1952	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
	1951	7	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
	1950	10	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-
	1949	13	10	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-
	1948	18	16	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-
Ungraded	1953	46	43	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	7	-	-
	1952	42	38	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	-	-	-
	1951	50	48	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	46	2	2	2
	1950	51	45	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	2	2	2
	1949	46	35	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	2	1	1
	1948	57	53	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	51	6	-	-
Pasteurised	1953	19	18*	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-
	1952	19	19	-	18	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
	1951	5	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
	1950	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
	1949	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1948	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	1953	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	-	-	-
	1952	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-
	1951	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
	1949	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1948	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Test on one sample void - atmospheric shade temperature over 65° F.

ICE CREAM

The premises of one person are registered for the manufacture of ice cream from a complete cold mix powder. There is no heat treated ice cream manufactured in the district.

As in previous years a number of applications were received from grocers and occupiers of small mixed shops for registration of premises for the sale of ice cream under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, and 4 premises were registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only.

The total number of vendors of ice cream is 39 of which 37 sell pre-packed ice cream only. In addition five manufacturers from outside the district operate mobile vehicles in the Golborne Urban District and retail loose ice cream.

These premises and vehicles are inspected regularly and 100 visits were made for this purpose, more attention having, of course, to be paid to the sale of loose ice cream than the pre-packed product. Some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining ice cream samples from mobile vehicles from outside the district who operate at irregular hours and prevent the submission of a sample to the Public Health Laboratory within the requisite period.

The codes of practice laid down by the Lancashire County Council for the manufacturer and various types of vendor have been in operation during the year, and these requirements have been carried out in a very large measure.

During the year forty-one samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these samples, six were of loose ice cream and four were classified as Grade 1, one as Grade 2 and one as Grade 4, the latter result, after investigation, appeared to be due to accidental contamination of the ice cream after delivery. The remaining thirty-five samples were of pre-packed products and were classified as thirty-three Grade 1 and two Grade 2.

The grading of ice cream samples over the past five years is as follows:-

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1949</u>
Grade 1	37	21	24	6	2
" 2	3	8	4	1	2
" 3	-	-	-	1	-
" 4	1	1	1	-	-
Totals	<u>41</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The County Council is the authority responsible for carrying out the provisions of the above Act relating to food sampling, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for particulars of the following samples which have been taken in the district and submitted for analysis:-

A total of 80 samples was obtained, of these 52 were of milk and the remaining 28 samples comprised:-

1 Barley	1 Lamb Tongue, canned
3 Beer	2 Lemon Curd
1 Butter	1 Luncheon Meat, canned
1 Cheese	1 Milk, condensed, skimmed, sweetened
2 Cheese Spread	2 Milk, condensed, full cream, sweetened
1 Coffee and Chicory Essence	3 Oatmeal
2 Cooking Salt	1 Oats, Rolled
1 Epsom Salt	1 Rice
1 Glycerine	2 Table Salt
1 Iodised Table Salt	

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine, with the exception of the following:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 Iodised Table Salt	Contained 1,110 micro- grams per oz. of iodine against declaration of 433-723 micrograms per oz.	Packers communicated with.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 3.3% fat	Vendor noti- fied.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Under this Act the Golborne Urban District is not a "local authority" for the purposes of the Act, having a population of less than 20,000 and responsibility is placed on the County Council, except for Section 38, which deals with sanitary conveniences, ventilation and temperature of shops, and is the direct responsibility of the sanitary authority.

Under delegated powers from the County Council, 280 Shops Act inspections were made during the year. These inspections deal

with the working hours, weekly half holidays and intervals for meals and rest of all young persons employed about the business of a shop, and other provisions relating to the health and comfort of all shop workers. Details of each inspection are forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health and any contraventions found are dealt with directly by the County Council.

In connection with the sanitary provisions of the Shops Act, one shop was reconstructed to provide satisfactory ventilation, heating and sanitary accommodation. No action was required in the case of other shops.

LICENSED PREMISES

Following a survey of sanitary accommodation provided at licensed premises, owners were notified in all cases where insufficient or insanitary closet and refuse storage accommodation was found. Although there was some delay in getting these necessary improvements carried out, schemes covering the whole of the defects specified were eventually submitted and the work was commenced during the latter part of the year. All the licensed premises visited were found to be kept in a clean condition.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

This Act governs the conditions under which rag flock is manufactured and stored, and controls the use of this and other filling materials for upholstery and other purposes. Standards of cleanliness of filling materials are prescribed by Regulation and certain premises require to be registered by the local authority.

One factory in the district carrying on upholstery work is registered by the Council. The registration provisions of the Act do not apply to premises where remaking and reconditioning of articles is carried on. There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured. Four visits were made to the registered premises and three samples of filling materials, purchased under warranty, submitted for analysis, all of which satisfied the tests laid down by the Regulations.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

This Act prohibits the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen, and requires all animals to be stunned by means of a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter.

During the year two new licences were granted, making a total of nine persons now licensed by the Council to slaughter under this Act.

Licences remain in operation for a period of three years, and one licence was renewed during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, places responsibilities on Local Authorities with regard to destruction of rats and mice. Under this Act the Local Authority is responsible for ensuring that all land, including farms is kept free from rodent infestation and it has been necessary to give more attention to the latter type of premises, with the co-operation of the Agricultural Executive Committee.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Food Infestation Division, two treatments of the sewers in the Golborne portion of the district were carried out and showed good results, but negative results were obtained on the new sewerage system in Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth, and baiting was discontinued after a 10% test bait had been carried out.

The number of sewer manholes found to be infested was two on the first treatment and eight on the second treatment, a somewhat lower level of infestation than the previous year but, nevertheless, rather above the average on the second treatment. Although a thorough inspection was made of all surface properties in the vicinity and possible sources of infestation were treated, no apparent cause was found for this fluctuation in the level of infestation. The following treatment of the sewers carried out early in 1954, however, showed a considerably reduced infestation.

The Council's sewerage disposal works and refuse tips have been baited regularly during the year and 79 rodent infestations on surface properties were also dealt with.

Whilst the Council have continued to give a free service for the treatment of rodent infestations found on dwelling houses, a charge has been made for treating business premises on the basis of the actual cost of labour, bait and poisons, plus 20%. It was not found necessary to serve any Statutory Notices under the Act, the co-operation of the public being readily obtained in this work by informal notification.

The total number of infestations found and treated during the year show a considerable reduction over the previous year (106) and it is interesting to note that the severity and extent of the various types of infestation has been considerably reduced. This is due in some measure to the more effective treatment of surface infestations by use of the new poison, Warfarin, which was used successfully on all types of premises during the year.

Details of Surface Infestations

	No. of Premises Inspected	No. of Infestations Treated	Type of Infestation		
			Rats		Mice Only
			Major	Minor	
Dwelling Houses ...	67	50	-	42	8
Business Premises ...	28	18	-	15	3
Agricultural Premises	62	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Premises ...	20	11	3	7	1
(Tips, Depots, Sewage Works, Etc.)					

A number of infestations found on dwelling houses were to some extent due to the keeping of poultry in yards and other unsuitable places, although some improvement was noted in this respect when compared with previous years, due to the smaller numbers of poultry now being kept.

One part time rodent operative is employed on the above work, and Ministry of Food methods of disinfection are employed throughout. A total of 310 inspections, in addition to visits for the treatment of premises, were made during the year.

Details of Rat Destruction in Sewers

District	Treatment	Manholes Baited	Manholes Infested	No. Infested last year.
Golborne (central)	No. 1	23	2	6
Golborne "	No. 2	28	8	8
Golborne (outer district)	10% Test Bait	15	Nil	Nil
Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth	10% Test Bait	32	Nil	Nil

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During the year six applications were made for licences to place caravans on land in the district for permanent living purposes. In all these cases licences were granted for a period expiring at the end of the year, but one licence was not utilised, and in a second case the caravan was removed during the year, these licences being subsequently cancelled. The licences of five existing caravans were renewed for a further period of one year and one of these caravans was later removed, thus leaving eight caravans in use for human habitation at the end of the year.

In all cases the caravans licensed have been of the modern trailer caravan type stationed on separate sites, and sanitary accommodation, readily accessible water supply and adequate drainage and paving around the caravan and approach have been provided in accordance with conditions imposed on each licence. Restrictions are also imposed on the erection of other buildings and structures adjoining or adjacent to caravans.

Thirty-nine visits were made in connection with this work during the year.

There are no licensed camping sites in the district.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This act provides for a system of licensing and inspection of all premises used for the sale of pets, including a private dwelling if used for this purpose.

The provisions of the Act require that accommodation used for keeping pets shall be suitable as regards size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness, that there is an adequate supply of suitable food and drink and that the animals shall not

be sold at too early an age.

One new licence was issued and two were renewed during the year in respect of premises used for the breeding and sale of rabbits. These premises have been kept in a satisfactory condition during the year. In three other cases which were investigated exemption from licensing was claimed under the pedigree animals clause.

ANIMAL DESTRUCTION CENTRE

The Council have provided an Animal Destruction Centre at the rear of the Council Offices, Lowton, for the destruction of unwanted domestic animals. A modern dual purpose electrocution chamber is in operation and for a nominal charge cats and dogs are instantaneously and painlessly destroyed, a service which continues to be greatly appreciated by the public. During the year 53 dogs and 11 cats have been destroyed. The carcases are removed and properly disposed of.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year is as follows:-

Rayon Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cotton Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Preserves and Sugar Confectionery			...	...	...	...	5
Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Boot and Shoe Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Printers...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners and Builders...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Corn Milling	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tyre retreading and Rubber Reclamation			...	...	...	...	2
Electrical Repairs and Fitments	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cinema Furnisher	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cabinet Maker	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hospital Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity Transforming	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Building Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Other Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
					Total	...	62

The requirements of the Factories Act appear to be well observed and in every case defects were remedied without statutory action.

The following tables give details of factory inspections carried out during the year under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and defects dealt with.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1953

		Factories Act, 1937			
Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)	
Factories with mechanical power	52	153	2	0	
Factories without mechanical power	2	5	0	0	
Other Premises	8	15	3	0	
Total	62	173	5	0	

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1953

Factories Act, 1937
Defects Found

Particulars (1)	No. of Defects				No. of Offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspec- tor (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspec- tor (5)	
Want of cleanli- ness	7	6	-	-	-
Ineffective venti- lation... ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary con- veniences-					
Insufficient	5	5	-	3	-
Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	-	1	-
Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ...	14	13	-	4	-

SMOKE ABATEMENT

During the year fourteen observations were taken of smoke emission from factory chimneys in the district. In each case the amount of smoke emitted has been within the limit prescribed in the bye-laws of 2 minutes black smoke in 30 minutes, excluding bursts of 30 seconds or less.

Number of factory chimneys in district	...	16
Number of observations taken	...	14
Written notices served	...	0
Legal proceedings	...	0
		<u>Black</u> <u>Moderate</u> <u>None</u>
Heaviest emission of smoke during any observation (minutes)	$\frac{1}{2}$	$13\frac{1}{2}$
Lightest emission of smoke during any observation (minutes)	-	$5\frac{1}{2}$
Average amount of smoke emitted during observations (minutes)	0.07	9.58
Average amount of smoke emitted during observations in 1952 (minutes)	0.19	10.11
		19.70

It will be seen that the amount of smoke emitted from industrial chimneys shows a slight but welcome reduction in comparison with the previous year, which in some measure indicates the growing interest both locally and nationally, in atmospheric pollution. In this connection the co-operation of the principal firms in the district has been readily obtained on all matters relating to smoke abatement.

Poor and unsuitable fuel, particularly in the winter months, continues to cause some concern to operators of boiler plant in the district and although the labour position has improved somewhat there is still some difficulty in obtaining the right type of person for stoking duties, who, in addition to practical boiler operations, is prepared to undertake theoretical instruction in order that he may be better fitted for this most important task.

The Council have continued to be members of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, and assistance has been given in the arrangement of courses of instruction for local firemen and stokers made by the Regional Committee.

Whilst our efforts have been concerned with industrial smoke, domestic smoke is responsible for much more atmospheric pollution than the public generally realize and it is unfortunate that so little encouragement is given to the use of smokeless fuels in domestic grates.

Although many improved domestic firegrates have been fitted during the past few years, little progress has been made in the use of smokeless fuels in these grates, which are designed to burn such fuels much more efficiently than coal and would considerably reduce atmospheric pollution. This is largely due to the increased price of solid smokeless fuels and, in some cases, difficulty of supply, and it would appear that until the industry can be expanded to provide these fuels at a price comparable with coal so that the public would use them voluntarily, the only solution to domestic smoke pollution is the establishment of more smokeless zones.

